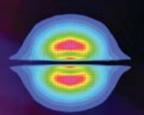
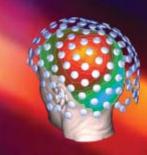
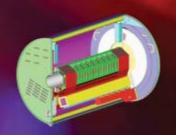
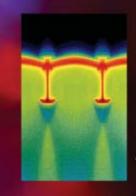
[] January 1, 1999–December 31, 200

LA-13870-PR Progress Report Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.









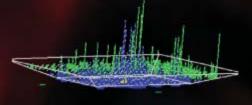
Physics Division Progress Report

January 1, 1999-December 31, 2000



Los Alamos National Laboratory is operated by the University of California for the United States Department of Energy under contract W-7405-ENG-36





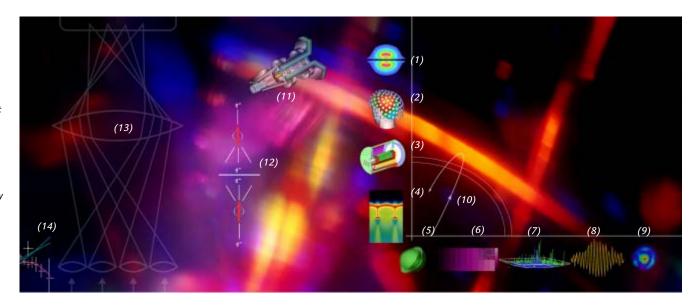




On the cover:

This cover design illustrates the wide and diverse range of projects that we pursue in the Physics Division:

- (1) A simple eddy current simulation which shows that in a sample with a flaw the current must deviate—which produces the magnetic-field anomaly measured by the superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID).
- (2) Our whole-head magnetoencephalography (MEG) system uses SQUID sensors to record the magnetic fields produced by active populations of neurons.
- (3) A schematic view of the multiplicity and vertex detector (MVD), whose purpose is twofold: to Identify the point at which the colliding particles actually hit each other and to measure the multiplicity and distribution of charged-particle tracks from the collision.
- (4) A RAGE simulation of a transverse view through an experimental package showing the development of a 20-µm-wide spike, 30-µm tall above a 15-µm-thick back-plane CH-covered copper package at 3.5 ns. The color scale represents the copper density from 0.1 g/cc in the low-density blow-off to 10 g/cc in the slightly compressed copper spikes and bubbles at 1.5 ns.
- (5) One of the stages of the assembly of a double-shell target used in this study of imploding targets with National Ignition Facility (NIF)-like lasers. This image shows the inner capsule surrounded by the foam shell.
- (6) An image of inferred areal densities from simulated radiographs made with x-rays (top half of image) and protons (bottom half of the image) for a uranium step wedge.



- (7) A typical event in Milagro showing pulse heights from the shower-layer photomultiplier tubes (PMTs) (green) and muon-layer PMTs (blue). The location of the shower core is evident in both layers.
- (8) A cross-correlation histogram (CCH) computed during the plateau portion of the response for pairs of ganglion cells at opposite ends of the same bar. Correlations were significant for pairs from the same bar.
- (9) A plot of the measured intensity pattern at best focus for the "single hot spot" laser used in our experiments. Its size is similar to one of the hot spots found in the ensemble of hot spots in a random phase plate (RPP) beam.
- (10) Lattice quantum chromodynamic (QCD) calculations predict that at higher temperatures and densities there will be a transition of matter from the confined state to

- the deconfined state, as shown by the band between the double-lines. Research with the relativistic heavy ion collider (RHIC) will explore this transition of matter.
- (11) Magnetized target fusion will require us to create the initial plasma configuration, inject it axially into a flux-conserving shell, and finally compress the plasma to fusion-relevant density and temperature. This image is a schematic of a proposed device designed to achieve these conditions.
- (12) Because of parity violation, electrons observed in nature exhibit an asymmetry in their angular correlation with the nuclear spin direction. This asymmetry was first observed in the beta decay of cobalt-60 that was cooled to a low temperature and spin-aligned in a magnetic field.
- (13) In a conventional transmission confocal microscope, light emerging from the sample is brought to focus on a pinhole aperture by a set of imaging optics. This aperture acts as a spatial filter for imaging, rejecting most of the light that did not pass through the confocal point in the sample volume, thereby reducing image contributions from light scattered or refracted from other locations within the medium.
- (14) The ratio of d to u in the proton from the Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (FNAL) E866 NuSea as a function of the fraction of the proton's momentum carried by the quark, x. NA51 (bright cross at center top) was the only previous measurement of this quantity. The curves represent various parameterizations of d/u. The curve that best matches the data (red line) was proposed only after the FNAL E866.

LA-13870-PR Progress Report

Issued: May 2002



Physics Division Progress Report January 1, 1999-December 31, 2000

Compilation and Editing
Todd Heinrichs

Art Direction and Cover Design Donald Montoya

The four most recently published reports in this unclassified series are LA-12501-PR, LA-12804-PR, LA-13048-PR, and LA-13355-PR.

An Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity EmployerThis report was prepared as an account of work sponsored by an agency of the United States Government. Neither The Regents of the University of California, the United States Government nor any agency thereof, nor any of their employees, makes any warranty, express or implied, or assumes any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information, apparatus, product, or process disclosed, or represents that its use would not infringe privately owned rights. Reference herein to any specific commercial product, process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not necessarily constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by The Regents of the University of California, the United States Government, or any agency thereof. The views and opinions of authors expressed herein do not necessarily state or reflect those of The Regents of the University of California, the United States Government, or any agency thereof. Los Alamos National Laboratory strongly supports academic freedom and a researcher's right to publish; as an institution, however, the Laboratory does not endorse the viewpoint of a publication or guarantee its technical correctness.



Physics Division Progress Report

January 1, 1999-December 31, 2000

Abstract

This Physics Division Progress Report describes our progress and achievements in applied and basic science during calendar years 1999 and 2000. The report covers the activities of the five Physics Division groups, which represent the main areas in which we serve Los Alamos National Laboratory and the nation: Biophysics, Hydrodynamic and X-Ray Physics, Neutron Science and Technology, Plasma Physics, and Subatomic Physics. The report also covers the activities of the Atlas Construction group (now disbanded) as it designed and built the most energetic pulsed-power facility in the world. This report includes a message from the Physics Division leader, general information about the mission and organization of the Division, staffing and funding data for the subject years, descriptions of the activities of each of our groups, highlights of the major research efforts throughout the Division, descriptions of the individual projects we support, and our publications and conference presentations for the subject years.

Contents

Introduction	
Message from the Division Leader	
Mission and Goals	
Division Funding and Personnel Data, FY99-FY00	
Physics Division Organization Chart, FY99-FY00	<i>(</i>
I. Group Descriptions	
P-21: Biophysics	
P-22: Hydrodynamics and X-Ray Physics	
P-23: Neutron Science and Technology	20
P-24: Plasma Physics	26
P-25: Subatomic Physics	
P-26: Atlas Construction	45
II. Research Highlights	
Biosciences	
Synchronization of Spiking Neurons in a Computer Model of the Mammalian Retina	54
Single-Molecule Detection of Specific Nucleic-Acid Sequences	64
Fusion Research	
Double Shell Implosions in the Inertial-Confinement Fusion Program	
Laser-Plasma Interactions in a Single Hot Spot	82
Magnetized Target Fusion	90
Nuclear and Particle Physics	
High-Energy Gamma-Astronomy with Milagro	100
Measuring the Weak Nuclear Force between Proton and Neutrons	
Beta Decay of Rubidium-82 in a Magnetic TOP-Trap	109
Neutron Resonance Spectroscopy: The Application of Neutron Physics to Shock and Material Physics	113
New Limit for the Lepton-Family-Number Nonconserving Decay $\mu^{\scriptscriptstyle +} \Rightarrow e^{\scriptscriptstyle +}\gamma$	120
The PHENIX Detector Program at RHIC	
A New Ultra-Cold Neutron Source for Fundamental Physics Measurements at LANSCE	
Hydrodynamic and Shock Physics	
Spall Strength and Shock Release Kinetics Following the Alpha-Epsilon Phase Transition in Iron	
The Reaction-History Archive	146
Proton Radiography	
Physics Applications	
Virtual Pinhole Confocal Microscope	
SQUID Array Microscope—An Ultrasensitive Tool for Nondestructive Examination	178
Quantum Information Science	
Materials Processing using an Atmospheric-Pressure Plasma Jet	189
Appendix A. Project Descriptions	
Appendix B. Publications and Conference Presentations	B-1
Note: Appendicies A and B are printed in a separate bound volume.	

This report has been reproduced directly from the best available copy.

It is available to DOE and DOE contractors from the Office of Scientific and Technical Information, P.O. Box 62, Oak Ridge, TN 37831. Prices are available from (615) 576-8401. http://www.doe.gov/bridge

It is available to the public from the National Technical Information Service, US Department of Commerce, 5285 Port Royal Rd. Springfield, VA 22616 (800) 553-6847.

